

APPROVED
AUGUST 10, 2021

Item #D-1
August 10, 2021

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
June 8, 2021

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: Minutes of the June 8, 2021, hybrid meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education held at Illinois State University, Bone Student Center in Normal, Illinois and online via WebEx as permitted by Public Act 101-0640 enacted June 12, 2020, the Illinois Governor’s Disaster Proclamation dated May 28, 2021, and Executive Order 2021-11.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education approve the minutes of the June 8, 2021, Board meeting.



STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

MINUTES – BOARD MEETING
June 8, 2021

A hybrid meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. at Illinois State University, Student Bone Center, Normal, Illinois and via WebEx as permitted by Public Act 101-0640 enacted June 12, 2020, the Illinois Governor's Disaster Proclamation dated May 28, 2021, and Executive Order 2021-11.

The following Board members were present in person: John Atkinson, Chair, Andrea Evans, Teresa Garate, and Kenneth Shaw. The following Board members were present via video conference: Jennifer Delaney, Derek Douglas, Jennifer Garrison, Veronica Herrero, Pranav Kothari, Clarence Wyatt, and Eric Zarnikow.

Others present in person: Ms. Ginger Ostro, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Larry Dietz, Illinois State University; Dr. Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University; Dr. Cheryl Green, Governors State University; Dr. Dan Mahony, Southern Illinois University; President Zaldwaynaka Scott, Chicago State University; Dr. Austin Lane, Southern Illinois University; and Ms. Tracy Rembusch, Illinois Board of Higher Education. Others present via video conference: Mr. Mark S. Jamil, Burke, Burns & Pinelli, LTD.; Dr. Gloria Gibson, Northeastern Illinois University; Dr. David Glassman, Eastern Illinois University; Dr. Guiyou Huang, Western Illinois University; Dr. Tim Killeen, University of Illinois; Dr. Brian Durham, Illinois Community College Board; Dr. Sylvia Jenkins, Community Colleges President; Ms. Angela Szczepanik-Sanchez, Disabilities Advisory Committee; Mr. Dave Tretter, Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities; Dr. Stephanie Bernoteit, Illinois Board of Higher Education (present in person at IBHE offices); Dr. Eric Lichtenberger, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Mr. Nyle Robinson, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Dr. Arthur Sutton, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Ms. Melissa Hahn, Illinois Board of Higher Education; Ms. Karen Helland, Illinois Board of Higher Education; and Ms. Jaimee Ray, Illinois Board of Higher Education.

The hybrid meeting was conducted by video conference as allowed by Public Act 101-0640 and roll call votes were recorded for each matter acted upon. The IBHE's Executive Deputy Director was physically present at the IBHE offices. The audio of the meeting was recorded and may be requested on the IBHE website.

A. Call to Order/Roll Call

• **Call Meeting to Order, Chair John Atkinson**

Chair John Atkinson called the meeting to order. Board Secretary Rembusch took roll call. A quorum was present.

Chair Atkinson thanked President Larry Dietz and Illinois State University (ISU) for hosting the meeting. He invited President Dietz to offer remarks.

President Dietz expressed that ISU is delighted to host the IBHE and to see others in attendance and via video conference. He informed the group that Dr. Lisa Freeman of Northern Illinois University (NIU) will be taking over his role as convener of the presidents and chancellors of public universities.

President Dietz commented that the universities are happy to have a flat budget and the students will benefit from the Monetary Award Program (MAP) and AIM HIGH funding. Dr. Dietz reported that ISU looks forward to a back-to-normal academic year with face-to-face instruction and full residence halls. He remarked that despite the pandemic, ISU accomplished a great deal during the 2021 academic year—they enrolled over 20,000 students with over 93 percent from Illinois and approximately 9,000 students graduated. President Dietz informed the group that ISU remains in the nation's top echelon for graduation and retention rates. He stated ISU has added to their leadership cabinet with the university's assistant to the president for diversity and inclusion. President Dietz reported that a new multi-cultural center will be opened in the fall, and he added that their comprehensive fundraising campaign called Redbirds Rising raised over \$180 million.

President Dietz announced it is with mixed emotions that he is retiring from higher education after a 50-year plus career. He reported that Dr. Terri Goss Kinzy has been appointed as ISU's 20th president, and she begins her duty on July 1. Dr. Dietz thanked the group of presidents and chancellors of the public universities as well as the private sector institutions, Dave Tretter, and the community college presidents. President Dietz thanked the former IBHE Board members, executive directors, and chairs and offered a special thanks to Ginger Ostro and Chair John Atkinson for their leadership in the state.

- **Welcome and remarks by Chair John Atkinson**

Chair Atkinson noted that the hybrid meeting reflects the first step in a process that, we hope, will bring us back together in person over the coming months. He said we adapted to the virtual world and are now taking steps to re-enter the actual world. We are in person today due to the availability of vaccines. Many of our campuses have undertaken efforts to make sure students have been vaccinated. He informed the group that in late April, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) partnered with colleges and universities on College Vaccination days, to encourage students to get vaccinated before they left for the summer. During that timeframe, there was a 67 percent increase in the number of 18- to 22-year-olds who were vaccinated. He asked all listening to share the message broadly that vaccines are important and are widely available.

Chair Atkinson remarked that the General Assembly had just concluded, and it was a busy session and strong one for higher education. He reported that the higher education budget includes stable funding for institutions of higher education along with several key initiatives which include \$1 million for the launch of the Common Application and supported investments in the higher education strategic plan, MAP, and College Illinois. He thanked Governor Pritzker and the members of the General Assembly for their leadership and support.

Chair Atkinson acknowledged former Illinois State Senator, Pat McGuire. He has been a stalwart champion of higher education and a wise leader who laid the groundwork for the developments that will provide important opportunities for ensuring our higher education system continues to help individuals, families, and communities thrive. Chair Atkinson stated that Mr. McGuire was one of the four co-chairs of the Strategic Plan Advisory Committee. He said we are

thankful for his help in leading us through the planning process. Chair Atkinson reported that we are in the final stages and preparing the plan for publication and Board action. He added that we anticipate meeting June 15 to take action on the plan and asked everyone to check the IBHE website for updates.

- **Remarks by Executive Director Ginger Ostro**

Ms. Ginger Ostro reported on the budget that was passed by the General Assembly. She said that the institutional funding provided is a stable level, the same as last year's which is incredible given the pandemic. Ms. Ostro discussed new investments for the MAP program, College Illinois, and the Common Application program. She noted that the budget contains \$250,000 for implementation of the Strategic Plan. Ms. Ostro thanked the Governor and the General Assembly for providing the support in the budget for higher education.

Ms. Ostro announced that we are in the final stages of the Strategic Plan and said she is grateful for the engagement of the advisory committee, the design work group members, the focus groups and the 10,000 people who participated in our survey.

B. Resolutions and Recognition – Action Items

1. Consideration and Approval of Resolutions Honoring President Larry Dietz

Chair Atkinson stated that President Dietz will be retiring effective June 30 and he asked his fellow presidents if they would like to say a few words. Well wishes, words of appreciation, and stories of Dr. Dietz' leadership were offered by President Lisa Freeman of Northern Illinois University, President Zaldwaynaka Scott of Chicago State University, President Dan Mahony of Southern Illinois University, President Cheryl Green of Governors State University, Chancellor Austin Lane of Southern Illinois University, and President Guiyou Huang of Western Illinois University. Former Illinois State Senator Pat McGuire thanked Dr. Dietz personally and professionally for the time they worked together during his tenure.

Chair Atkinson read the Resolution honoring President Dietz. Dr. Kenneth Shaw, Dr. Andrea Evans, and Dr. Teresa Garate expressed their appreciation for the work done by President Dietz and congratulated him on his retirement.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Kenneth Shaw and seconded by Dr. Andrea Evans, unanimously approved the Resolution honoring President Larry Dietz. The vote was: Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Matthews, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Chair Atkinson welcomed Deputy Governor Jesse Ruiz. Mr. Ruiz thanked President Dietz for his counsel and guidance. He then read a proclamation on behalf of Governor J.B. Pritzker.

2. Chair Atkinson read the Resolutions honoring outgoing student Board members Maria Cruz and Mackenzi Matthews.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Teresa Garate and seconded by Mr. Pranav Kothari, unanimously approved the Resolution honoring Student Board Members Maria Cruz and Mackenzi Matthews. The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Matthews, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Nays: None

C. Reports and Updates

• Advisory Committee Report – Disability Advisory Committee

Ms. Angela Szczepanik-Sanchez serves as the representative for the Disability Advisory Committee (DAC). She provided an overview of the work done by the DAC this year which included addressing areas that promote retention and completion the students with disabilities and contributing to the work on our Strategic Plan. A few of the primary insights included clearing pathways so students get the support they need; finding more resources to create an inclusive and accessible campus; finding resources to support unique circumstances at each campus; and making course requirements and pathway to graduation as seamless as possible.

• Advisory Committee Report – Student Advisory Committee

Ms. Mackenzi Matthews gave the Student Advisory Committee (SAC) report on behalf of Ms. Karilynn Samuels. Ms. Samuels serves as the SAC secretary and is a student government member at Harper College. Ms. Matthews reported that officers were elected in August of 2020 and subcommittees were suggested by students and included Affordability and Students Services. She stated some student issues were developed based on subcommittee work which included ensuring underrepresented students are accounted for and that there is a level playing field for all students; providing student support for financial aid and student debt concerns; keeping students in Illinois by keeping costs low and manageable; and ensuring all students are supported to achieve college success. Ms. Matthews added that SAC members were appointed to the strategic plan working groups. She noted that at the year-end meeting, SAC members provided feedback for next year's group.

D. Public Comment

No one registered for public comment.

E. Action Items

1. Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction at Public Community Colleges

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Andrea Evans and seconded Mr. Derek Douglas by hereby grants authority to Black Hawk College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Cybersecurity subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Matthews, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Nays: None

And, hereby grants authority to the Frontier Community College to offer the Associate of Applied Science in Certified Medical Assistant and the Associate of Applied Science in Electrical

Distribution subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

2. Consideration and Approval of New Operating and/or Degree Granting Authority for Independent Institutions

Mr. Derek Douglas asked about the plans by Northwestern Memorial Hospital to reach minority populations and other communities that may not have access to these jobs and educational opportunities. Dr. Diane Wayne from Northwestern Memorial Hospital stated that about one-third of their current student population is from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds in the medical field. She reported they have a coordinator in their human resource division that works with a number of community organizations to support recruitment and hiring from among underrepresented populations.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Derek Douglas and seconded by Ms. Mackenzi Matthews hereby grants to Adler University authorization to grant a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Sex Therapy in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted. The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Matthews, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Nays: None

And, hereby grants authorization to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University to operate in the West Suburban Region subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to Northwestern Memorial Hospital authorization to operate in the Chicago Region subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants authorization to Roosevelt University to operate in the South Metro Region subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to Chamberlain University authorization to grant a Master of Physician Assistant Studies in the Chicago Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

3. Consideration and Approval of New Units of Instruction, Public Service, and Research at Public Universities

Dr. Shaw stated these approvals are heavily vetted and praised the staff for the work they are doing which gives the Board a very high comfort level regarding items that are proposed.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Dr. Teresa Garate hereby grants to University of Illinois Springfield authorization to grant the Master of Science in Cybersecurity Management in the Central Region, subject to the institution's

implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted. The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Matthews, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Nays: None

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Springfield authorization to grant the Master of Science in Healthcare Informatics in the Central Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Springfield authorization to grant the Master of Science in Human Resource Management in the Central Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Urbana Champaign authorization to grant the Master of Science in Biomedical Image Computing in the Prairie Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

And, hereby grants to University of Illinois Urbana Champaign authorization to grant the Master of Science in Integrative Biology in the Prairie Region, subject to the institution's implementation and maintenance of the conditions that were presented in its application and that form the basis upon which this authorization is granted.

F. Consent Agenda Action Items

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Dr. Jennifer Delaney and seconded by Dr. Clarence Wyatt unanimously approved Item Nos F-1 through F-9. The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Matthews, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Nays: None

Dr. Evans commented on the Diversifying Faculty in Illinois program and how proud she is that it continues to be funded. She stated that she will continue to support the program and feels it is critical for the overall goals of higher education in Illinois.

Ms. Veronica Herrero asked how the nurse educator fellowship program is working to diversify the program. Ms. Karen Helland stated data is being collected on those nominated and this is something that will be incorporated into this program.

1. Consideration and Approval of Diversifying Faculty in Illinois Program Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriation for the DFI institutional grant awards (see Table 1) as specified by the statute and recommended by the DFI Program Board.

2. Consideration and Approval of General Grants Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to award the Fiscal Year 2022 General Grants, pending further action by the General Assembly and the Governor.

3. Consideration and Approval of Illinois Cooperative Work Study Program Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the anticipated Fiscal Year 2022 appropriation for the Illinois Cooperative work Study Grant as specified by statute and administrative rule. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) Continue to monitor and determine eligibility of institutions pursuant to the statute (110 ILCS 225) and the rules implementing that statute (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1015);
- 2) To withhold payment or adjust a grant allocation, if necessary, to conform to existing statute, rule, or available funding or to assure compliance with any previous grant agreements;
- 3) Distribute equitably all grant awards to eligible ICWS institutions:
 - a. Expand opportunities for students to pursue internships, clinical placement, cooperative programs with business and industry, and other work opportunities linked to a student's academic program;
 - b. Strengthen cooperation between higher education, business, industry, and government;
 - c. Encourage social and community service;
 - d. Maximize the use of matching contributions from business and industry and governmental and social agencies;
 - e. Create new opportunities for public/private partnerships;
 - f. Integrate other components of student financial aid to reduce reliance on student loans; and
 - g. Encourage students to seek permanent employment in Illinois.
- 4) Re-allocate funds between projects, fund other projects as necessary, and allocate any remaining funds at the end of the fiscal year.

4. Consideration and Approval of Nurse Educator Fellowship Program Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the anticipated Fiscal Year 2022 appropriation for the Nurse Educator Fellowship program as specified by statute and administrative rule and in consultation with the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) *Notify institutions when a state appropriation to the program has been made;*

- 2) Determine eligibility of nursing schools and nominees; evaluate, score, and rank nominees; and select nominees for funding, pursuant to statute (110 ILCS 205/9.32) and the rules implementing the statute (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1105);
- 3) Distribute awards to nursing schools on behalf of fellows; and
- 4) Provide the Board with the list of nurse educators selected for funding and their nominating institutions at the December 2021 Board meeting.

5. Consideration and Approval of Nursing School Grant Program Fiscal Year 2022 Grant Allocation

The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby authorizes the Executive Director to allocate the anticipated Fiscal Year 2022 appropriation for the Nursing School Grants Program as specified by statute and administrative rule. The Board authorizes the Executive Director to:

- 1) Notify eligible institutions when a state appropriation has been made for the Fiscal Year 2022 Nursing School Grant Program;
- 2) Determine eligibility of institutions pursuant to statute (110 ILCS 205/9.31) and the rules implementing the statute (23 Ill. Adm. Code 1100);
- 3) Evaluate, score, and rank proposals;
- 4) Select the proposals for funding in collaboration with the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center;
- 5) Distribute grant awards to eligible nursing schools; and
- 6) Provide the Board with information about the proposals selected for funding and the award amounts at the December 2021 Board meeting.

6. Consideration and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2021

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Board Meeting of March 8, 2021.

7. Consideration and Approval of Strategic Plan Board Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2021

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Strategic Plan Board Meeting of February 23, 2021.

8. Consideration and Approval of Strategic Plan Board Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2021

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Minutes of the Strategic Plan Board Meeting of April 14, 2021.

9. Consideration and Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Report as of April 30, 2021

The Illinois Board of Higher Education unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Report as of April 30, 2021.

G. Informational Items Not Requiring Board Action (Written Reports)

1. Report on Fiscal Year 2021 Nurse Educator Fellowship Grant Awards
2. Report on Fiscal Year 2021 Nursing School Grant Awards

H. Executive Session

Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Matters Pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act

Chair Atkinson asked that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act.

Mr. Derek Douglas made the motion to move the Illinois Board of Higher Education into executive session. Dr. Kenneth Shaw seconded the motion. The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Matthews, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Nays: None

The Board moved into executive session.

Reconvene in Open Session at 3:00 p.m.

I. Consideration and Approval of Confidentiality of Executive Session Minutes and Destruction of Verbatim Recordings – Action Item

On motion by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Dr. Clarence Wyatt the Illinois Board of Higher Education finds that the need for confidentiality still exists for the minutes of the closed session of: (a) the Board Meeting held on January 13, 2021, and (b) and that such minutes remain confidential.

The vote was:

Yeas: Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow

Nays: None

J. Other Business

Chair Atkinson read a Resolution honoring Dr. Barbara Wilson from the University of Illinois. Dr. Wilson has been named the 22nd president of the University of Iowa.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education on motion made by Mr. Eric Zarnikow and seconded by Ms. Veronica Herrero, unanimously approved the Resolution honoring Dr. Barbara Wilson. The vote was:

Yeas: *Atkinson, Delaney, Douglas, Evans, Garate, Garrison, Herrero, Kothari, Shaw, Wyatt and Zarnikow*

Nays: None

Chair Atkinson reported that the next official meeting of the Board will be August 10. He stated that we are currently planning to meet on June 15 to approve the Strategic Plan.

Chair Atkinson thanked President Dietz and the staff of ISU for hosting today.

K. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion of Dr. Kenneth Shaw, second by Dr. Andrea Evans, and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Rembusch, Secretary to the Board.